

Important Information from your City of Fresno Department of Public Utilities,
Providing Life's Essential Services.

Conservation Starts At Home

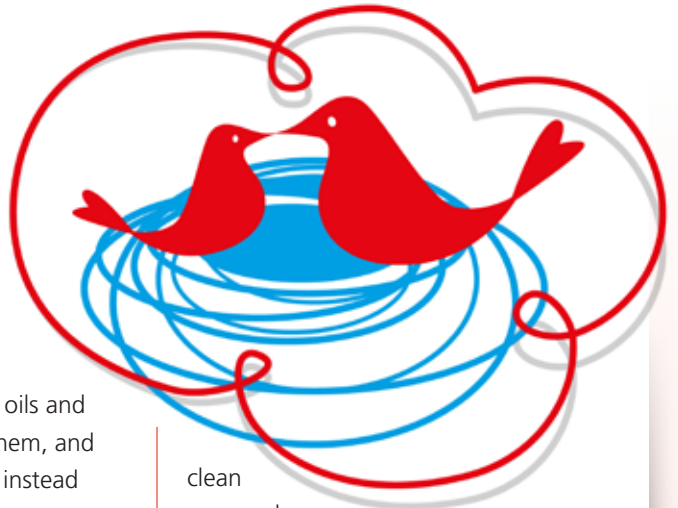
Do our customers help keep our utility rates among lowest in the state?

Fres-yes They Do!

We dedicate this issue of Utility Zone to our customers. To all the folks who fill up their blue carts with recyclables, their green carts with yard waste, and resize their gray garbage carts to the smallest size available... to the people who "use less" soaps and detergents, and "choose wisely" when purchasing liquid detergents instead of powders...

to the people who pour fats, oils and grease into containers, seal them, and then put into their gray carts instead of down the drain... who refuse to leave the water running when they are brushing their teeth or washing their dishes, and who choose to water on the correct day. We dedicate this issue to all of the volunteers who have ever helped

clean up a park or pick up litter on a trail – we say "Thank You!" You are setting a great example for future generations, and helping to make our home a better place to live.



WATER

Some call it xeriscaping, others call it smart-scaping, while others call it doing more with less. This past year, six area homeowners were named Central Valley Friendly Landscaping Award winners for excellence in creating beautiful landscapes while simultaneously saving water. In order to qualify for the award, landscapes must comply with seven guiding practices, including :

- Conserve water and ensure water quality
- Conserve energy and protect air quality
- Nurture the soil
- Reduce garden waste or send less to the landfill
- Practice integrated pest management
- Select appropriate plants
- Create and protect wildlife habitat

To see pictures of the six award-winning landscapes, to apply for the 2012 awards for your own garden, or for a Central Valley Friendly checklist for your garden, visit www.ucanr.org/sites/cvlandscape/

Congratulations to the 2011 CVFL Award Recipients, left to right: Mike Peterson, Sally Carroll, Christine & Howard Watkins, Martha Arevalo, Bruce & Amy Roberts, Gary Woods. The cities of Fresno and Clovis, UCCE Master Gardener Program, Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, and Clovis Botanical Garden coordinate the program.

SOLID WASTE

One of the most impressive winners of this year's Mayors' Recycling Awards, given the age of each recipient, was Ahwahnee Middle School – an environmental studies magnet school whose instruction focuses on Earth science issues such as recycling, composting, gardening, landscaping, and the study of renewable energy. Ahwahnee students learn conservation in part by catching precipitation in rain barrels, which they use to irrigate the on-campus crops grown with the aid of compost culled from cafeteria remains. The "Green Warriors" of Ahwahnee Middle School go to great lengths to try to reduce waste and maximize resources as much as possible, including harnessing the sun's rays with the school's pad of eight solar panels.



WASTEWATER

Individuals and businesses that are careful to avoid putting hazardous and/or potentially clogging materials down the drain are doing the entire area a great service. One outstanding example of a responsible local business is Valley Chrome Plating, a Valley-based and



Valley Chrome receives the federal EPA award "National Priorities for Environmental Performance." Pictured left to right: Matt Lucas, Greg Lucas, Cathy Booe, Tom Lucas and Ray Lucas.

family-owned manufacturer of truck bumpers. Not only has Valley Chrome made the switch from Hex-Chrome to the far-less-toxic Trivalent Chromium, but it has managed to achieve zero discharge in the manufacturing process by doing things like implementing an ion exchange waste reduction system throughout manufacturing process. As a result of their marvelous efforts, Valley Chrome eliminated three tons of hexavalent chromium, created a much safer environment for its employees, reduced waste treatment costs, and won numerous awards for achieving zero discharge!



FACT zone – Did you know?

GET PRESIDENTIAL



The first president to enjoy indoor plumbing in the White House was the man on the twenty-dollar bill, Andrew Jackson. The first to toss the chamber pot is said to be Millard Fillmore in the early 1850's. It is suspected, but there is no official confirmation, that he was also the first to feel the wrath of the first lady for leaving the toilet seat up.



SUPER SUNDAY



Despite an urban legend to the contrary, sewer systems around the country are no more prone to break down or become overloaded during the Super Bowl than at any other time. For years, people have spread this tale, believing that a sudden rush of viewers to the bathroom during commercials and/

or halftime would cause a severe loss of water pressure or an all out sewer system overload – but no confirmed links have ever been reported.



ROSES ARE RED - RECYCLING IS BLUE - OR IN THIS CASE, GREEN!

No matter what colored flowers you give or receive this Valentine's Day, the correct colored cart for their disposal is green. Assuming you've taken any plastic, paper, and metal wrapping/packaging off the flowers first, you should dispose of them in the green cart. Remember, if it grows in the ground, it goes in the green.

Winter Watering

During the winter months, it's easy to forget that our Valley is naturally dry. Fortunately though, as the weather gets colder and the fog and rain rolls through the Valley, it is the easiest time of the year to conserve water.

If you haven't already done so, make sure your automatic sprinklers are adjusted to the winter watering schedule or consider shutting off your irrigation system altogether. Often, precipitation alone will cover the watering needs for most plants

and over-watering can actually cause roots to rot and kill your valuable plants!

Call 621-5480 to make an appointment for a Free water leak survey or for help setting your automatic sprinkler timer.



City of
FRESNO



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES
Providing Life's Essential Services

www.fresno.gov 100% recyclable.
DPU45658 / 01.12 / 133.5M / CP

What Goes Where?

Be Cart Smart & Follow This Easy List!

BLUE

Recyclables

- Emptied & Dried Paint Cans & Buckets
- Small Appliances (*hair driers, blenders, toasters, etc.*)
- DVDs, CDs & Video Cassettes
- Tools
- **ALL** Paper (*not soiled*)
- **ALL** Cardboard (*please flatten*)
- **ALL** Plastics (*including plastic bags*)
- **ALL** Metal
- Empty Glass Bottles & Jars

GREEN

Green Waste

- Plant, Fruit & Veggie Clippings from the Garden
- Leaves
- Palm Fronds
- Weeds
- Tree Prunings & Untreated Wood (*less than 4" in diameter and cut to 3' lengths*)
- Sawdust
- Grass

GRAY

Garbage

- **STYROFOAM**
- Cooking Oils & Grease (*tightly sealed*)
- Kitchen Food Waste
- **COLD** Fireplace Coals & Ashes
- Diapers
- Bagged Animal Waste
- Rubber Hoses

Phone zone

One Call Center..... 621-CITY(2489)

After-Hour Emergencies.....	621-1100
Billing Questions (Utility Billing & Collections).....	621-6888
Account Info & Credit Card Payments Online.....	www.fresno.gov/utilitybill
Community Revitalization / Code Enforcement.....	621-8400
Graffiti Hotline.....	621-8247
Household Hazardous Waste.....	600-4259
Mayor/Council Offices.....	621-8000
Oil-Used Motor Oil & Curbside Collection.....	621-1111
Recycling Hotline.....	621-1111
Solid Waste Management Division (Garbage, Recycling & Operation Clean Up).....	621-1452
Speakers' Bureau.....	621-5480
Street Maintenance/Median Islands.....	621-1492
Tours.....	621-8635
Tire Disposal.....	621-8400
Tree Roots, Street Drainage, Sidewalks & Potholes, Street Tree Trimming & Streetlights.....	621-1492
Wastewater Management Division.....	621-5100
Collection System Maintenance (Sewer Maintenance).....	621-1496
Water Division.....	621-5300
Water Conservation Program.....	621-5480

WATERING SCHEDULES

FALL/WINTER 12 / 1 - 03 / 1

ODD Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) **EVEN** Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8)

Saturdays Only

Sundays Only

WATER ANYTIME ON YOUR DAY

SPRING/SUMMER 3 / 2 - 11 / 30

NO WATERING MONDAYS

ODD Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, 9) **EVEN** Numbered Addresses: (Ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, 8)

Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday

Wednesday/Friday/Sunday

NO WATERING BETWEEN 6 A.M. AND 7 P.M.

Contact www.fresno.gov/water • email: waterconservation@fresno.gov